

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned application:

**Listing of the Claims**

1. (Original): A water irrigation system, comprising:  
a computer system comprising an infrared receiver, wherein the infrared receiver is configured to receive infrared output from a device comprising an infrared transmitter, wherein the device is configured to allow a user to provide instructions to the water irrigation system; and  
wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation of a zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the infrared output from the device.
2. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the infrared receiver is an infrared transceiver.
3. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a hand-held device.
4. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a laptop computer.
5. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a personal digital assistant.
6. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the device is a cellular phone.

7. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a regional identifier.
8. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a postal code.
9. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a day of the week.
10. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a time of day.
11. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a year.
12. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a month.
13. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a day of a month.
14. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a date.
15. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a soil type.
16. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a type of vegetation.

17. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise a stress factor.
18. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise instructions to initiate irrigation.
19. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the instructions comprise instructions to terminate irrigation.
20. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured to inhibit irrigation at least partially based on the infrared output from the device.
21. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising a sensing unit, wherein the sensing unit comprises a solar panel configured to receive sunlight and to produce electricity from the received sunlight, and wherein the solar panel is configured to supply at least a portion of the electricity to the sensing unit.
22. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation at least partially based on community irrigation instructions.
23. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising a sensing unit, wherein the sensing unit comprises a transmitter configured to provide output from the sensing unit to the computer system.
24. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system.

25. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, and wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water.

26. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, and wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water, and one or more irrigation devices, wherein at least one of the irrigation devices is coupled to at least one of the conduits.

27. (Original): The water irrigation system of claim 1, further comprising one or more valves that are operated by the computer system, wherein at least one of the valves is coupled to one or more conduits, wherein at least a portion of each conduit is configured to carry water, and a source of water that is coupled to at least one of the conduits.

28. (Original): A method of controlling irrigation, comprising:  
    providing infrared output from a device comprising an infrared transmitter;  
    allowing an infrared receiver of a computer system of a water irrigation system to receive the infrared output; and  
    controlling irrigation of a zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the infrared output received from the device.

29. (Original): The method of claim 28, wherein controlling irrigation comprises initiating irrigation by the water irrigation system.

30. (Original): The method of claim 28, wherein controlling irrigation comprises terminating irrigation by the water irrigation system.
31. (Original): The method of claim 28, further comprising assessing solar insolation near or in the zone to be irrigated, and controlling irrigation at least partially based on the assessed solar insolation.
32. (Original): The method of claim 28, further comprising assessing solar insolation near or in the zone to be irrigated, and assessing zonal evapotranspiration at least partially based on the assessed solar insolation.
33. (Original): The method of claim 28, further comprising controlling irrigation based at least partially on community irrigation instructions.
34. (New): A water irrigation system, comprising:
- irrigation equipment;
  - a computer system; wherein the computer system is configured to control the irrigation equipment to irrigate an irrigation zone based on a programmed irrigation schedule, wherein the programmed irrigation schedule is at least partially based on the region where the irrigation zone is located;
  - at least one sensing unit configured to assess an amount of moisture in an irrigation zone; wherein the computer system is configured to inhibit irrigation of the irrigation zone when an assessed amount of moisture exceeds a predetermined amount; and

at least one receiver coupled to the computer system, wherein the receiver is configured to receive community irrigation instructions generated for the region and send the community irrigation instructions to the computer system, wherein the community irrigation instructions override the programmed irrigation schedule.

35. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein the receiver is a pager device.

36. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein the receiver is an infrared receiver.

37. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein the receiver is a single frequency device.

38. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein the receiver is an assignable frequency device.

39. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein the community irrigation instructions result in one or more of the following actions: termination of an irrigation cycle, reduction in duration of an irrigation cycle, reduction in frequency of an irrigation cycle, rescheduling of an irrigation cycle, and initiation of an irrigation cycle.

40. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein the region comprises at least a portion of a postal zone.

41. (New): The system of claim 34, further comprising a solar panel configured to receive sunlight and to produce electricity from the received sunlight, and wherein the solar panel is configured to supply at least a portion of the electricity to the sensing unit.

42. (New): The system of claim 34, further comprising at least one wind switch, wherein when the when the wind speed measured by the wind switch exceeds a predetermined value a control signal is sent to at least one of the receivers to terminate irrigation.

43. (New): The system of claim 34, further comprising at least one wind speed sensing unit, wherein when the wind speed measured by the wind speed sensing unit exceeds a certain value for a selected length of time, a control signal is sent to at least one of the receivers to terminate irrigation.

44. (New): The system of claim 34, further comprising a solar panel configured to receive sunlight and to use the received sunlight to produce electricity, wherein the sensing unit is configured to provide output that is a function of the received sunlight to the computer system, and wherein the computer system is configured to assess solar insolation as a function of the output from the sensing unit; and wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation of a zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the assessed solar insolation.

45. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein the sensing unit comprises a collector configured to receive moisture and a flex circuit coupled to the collector, wherein the flex circuit comprises a capacitor, and wherein the capacitor is part of a resonant circuit; wherein the collector and the flex circuit are configured such that a change in an amount of moisture in the collector alters a frequency of the resonant circuit.

46. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein at least one of the receivers is configured to receive evapotranspiration information for the region, and wherein the computer system is configured to assess an irrigation need of the region to be irrigated at least partially based on the regional evapotranspiration information.

47. (New): The system of claim 34, wherein at least one sensing unit comprises a moisture gauge, wherein the moisture gauge is configured such that a rate of evaporation of moisture from the moisture gauge is within about 10% of an average rate of evaporation of moisture from a zone to be irrigated.

48. (New): A method of controlling irrigation of an irrigation zone, comprising:

providing a programmed irrigation schedule to a water irrigation system, wherein the programmed irrigation schedule is at least partially based on the region where the irrigation zone is located, the water irrigation system comprising:

irrigation equipment;

a computer system; wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation equipment to irrigate an irrigation zone based on the programmed irrigation schedule;

at least one sensing unit configured to assess an amount of moisture in an irrigation zone; and

at least one receiver coupled to the computer system, wherein the receiver is configured to receive remote irrigation instructions and send the remote irrigation instructions to the computer system;

assessing an amount of moisture in an irrigation zone;



inhibiting irrigation of the irrigation zone when an assessed amount of moisture exceeds a predetermined amount;

receiving community irrigation instructions generated for the region;

overriding the programmed irrigation schedule based on the community irrigation instructions.

49. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the receiver is a pager device.

50. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the receiver is an infrared receiver.

51. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the receiver is a single frequency device.

52. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the receiver is an assignable frequency device.

53. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the community irrigation instructions result in one or more of the following actions: termination of an irrigation cycle, reduction in duration of an irrigation cycle, reduction in frequency of an irrigation cycle, rescheduling of an irrigation cycle, and initiation of an irrigation cycle.

54. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the region comprises at least a portion of a postal zone.

55. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the water irrigation system further comprises a solar panel configured to receive sunlight and to produce electricity from the received sunlight,

and wherein the solar panel is configured to supply at least a portion of the electricity to the sensing unit.

56. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the water irrigation system further comprises at least one wind switch, wherein when the wind speed measured by the wind switch exceeds a predetermined value a control signal is sent to at least one of the receivers to terminate irrigation.

57. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the water irrigation system further comprises at least one wind speed sensing unit, wherein when the wind speed measured by the wind speed sensing unit exceeds a certain value for a selected length of time, a control signal is sent to at least one of the receivers to terminate irrigation.

58. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the water irrigation system further comprises a solar panel configured to receive sunlight and to use the received sunlight to produce electricity, wherein the sensing unit is configured to provide output that is a function of the received sunlight to the computer system, and wherein the computer system is configured to assess solar insolation as a function of the output from the sensing unit; and wherein the computer system is configured to control irrigation of a zone to be irrigated at least partially based on the assessed solar insolation.

59. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein the sensing unit comprises a collector configured to receive moisture and a flex circuit coupled to the collector, wherein the flex circuit comprises a capacitor, and wherein the capacitor is part of a resonant circuit; wherein the collector and the flex circuit are configured such that a change in an amount of moisture in the collector alters a frequency of the resonant circuit.

60. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein at least one of the receivers is configured to receive evapotranspiration information for the region, and wherein the computer system is configured to assess an irrigation need of the region to be irrigated at least partially based on the regional evapotranspiration information.

61. (New): The method of claim 48, wherein at least one sensing unit comprises a moisture gauge, wherein the moisture gauge is configured such that a rate of evaporation of moisture from the moisture gauge is within about 10% of an average rate of evaporation of moisture from a zone to be irrigated.